

1 CLAIMS

2

3 1. Apparatus capable of indicating when the contents of  
4 a medical bag reach a certain level, the apparatus  
5 comprising indicator means and a first and second  
6 component, wherein the first component has  
7 attachment means for holding the medical bag and is  
8 adapted to move relative to the second component as  
9 the contents of the medical bag change, wherein  
10 movement of the first component activates the  
11 indicator means.

12

13 2. Apparatus as claimed in Claim 1, wherein the medical  
14 bag is a catheter bag or drip bag.

15

16 3. Apparatus as claimed in any one of the preceding  
17 Claims, wherein the first and second components are  
18 hollow tubulars.

19

20 4. Apparatus as claimed in any one of the preceding  
21 Claims, wherein as the volume of the contents of the  
22 medical bag changes, the first component moves in a  
23 substantially vertical direction relative to the  
24 second component.

25

26 5. Apparatus as claimed in any one of the preceding  
27 Claims, manufactured from metal.

28

29 6. Apparatus as claimed in any one of Claims 1 to 4,  
30 manufactured from a plastic material.

31

32 7. Apparatus as claimed in any one of Claims 1 to 5,  
33 manufactured from stainless steel.

BEST AVAILABLE COPY

1

2 8. Apparatus as claimed in any one of the preceding  
3 Claims, wherein the first and second components are  
4 arranged such that the first component is positioned  
5 above and engages with the second component.

6

7 9. Apparatus as claimed in any one of the preceding  
8 Claims, wherein the lowermost region of the first  
9 component is positioned substantially within the  
10 uppermost region of the second component.

11

12 10. Apparatus as claimed in any one of the preceding  
13 Claims, wherein the diameter of at least the  
14 lowermost region of the first component is smaller  
15 than the diameter of at least the uppermost region  
16 of the second component.

17

18 11. Apparatus as claimed in any one of Claims 1 to 8,  
19 wherein the lowermost region of the first component  
20 is positioned substantially over the uppermost  
21 region of the second component.

22

23 12. Apparatus as claimed in Claim 11, wherein the  
24 diameter of at least the lowermost region of the  
25 first component is larger than the diameter of at  
26 least the uppermost region of the second component.

27

28 13. Apparatus as claimed in any one of the preceding  
29 Claims, wherein a compression spring is located  
30 within the second component.

31

32 14. Apparatus as claimed in Claim 13, wherein the first  
33 component makes contact with the compression spring.

**BEST AVAILABLE COPY**

- 1  
2 15. Apparatus as claimed in Claims 13 to 14, wherein the  
3 first component sits on the compression spring.  
4  
5 16. Apparatus as claimed in Claims 13 to 15, wherein the  
6 compression spring is calibrated.  
7  
8 17. Apparatus as claimed in any one of the preceding  
9 Claims, wherein one of either the first or second  
10 component contains a magnetic array.  
11  
12 18. Apparatus as claimed in Claim 17, wherein the other  
13 of the first or second component contains a magnetic  
14 detector or sensor.  
15  
16 19. Apparatus as claimed in Claim 18, wherein the  
17 magnetic detector or sensor is a read switch.  
18  
19 20. Apparatus as claimed in any one of the preceding  
20 Claims, wherein the indicator means is activated  
21 when the magnetic detector or sensor comes into  
22 proximity with the magnetic array.  
23  
24 21. Apparatus as claimed in any one of the preceding  
25 Claims, wherein the indicator means comprises one or  
26 more indicator lights.  
27  
28 22. Apparatus as claimed in any one of the preceding  
29 Claims, wherein the indicator means comprises an  
30 audible signal.  
31  
32 23. Apparatus as claimed in any one of the preceding  
33 Claims, wherein the magnetic detector or sensor and

**BEST AVAILABLE COPY**

- 1 magnetic array are brought into proximity with each  
2 other as the bag fills.  
3
- 4 24. Apparatus as claimed in any one of the preceding  
5 Claims, wherein as the medical bag fills, the weight  
6 of the bag moves the first component in a  
7 substantially downward direction on the compression  
8 spring located in the second component, causing the  
9 magnetic detector or sensor and magnetic array to be  
10 brought into proximity with each other.  
11
- 12 25. Apparatus as claimed in any one of Claims 1 to 22,  
13 wherein the magnetic detector or sensor and magnetic  
14 array are brought into proximity with each other as  
15 the bag empties.  
16
- 17 26. Apparatus as claimed in Claim 25, wherein as the  
18 medical bag empties, the reduction in weight of the  
19 medical bag moves the first component in a  
20 substantially upward direction on the compression  
21 spring located in the second component, causing the  
22 magnetic detector or sensor and magnetic array to be  
23 brought into proximity with each other.  
24
- 25 27. Apparatus as claimed in any one of the preceding  
26 Claims, wherein the indicator means is battery  
27 operated.  
28
- 29 28. Apparatus as claimed in any one of the preceding  
30 Claims, wherein the indicator means is located on  
31 one of the upper or lower components.  
32

**BEST AVAILABLE COPY**

- 1 29. Apparatus as claimed in any one of Claims 1 to 27,  
2 wherein the indicator means is located on both of  
3 the upper and lower components.  
4
- 5 30. Apparatus as claimed in any one of Claims 1 to 27,  
6 wherein the indicator means is located in a remote  
7 location to the apparatus.  
8
- 9 31. Apparatus as claimed in any one of the preceding  
10 Claims, comprising a third tubular component.  
11
- 12 32. Apparatus as claimed in Claim 31, wherein the  
13 indicator means is located on the third tubular  
14 component.  
15
- 16 33. Apparatus as claimed in Claims 31 to 32, wherein the  
17 third tubular component has battery access.  
18
- 19 34. Apparatus as claimed in any one of the preceding  
20 Claims which is free standing.  
21
- 22 35. Apparatus as claimed in any one of the preceding  
23 Claims, wherein the lower component has a base.  
24
- 25 36. Apparatus as claimed in Claim 35, wherein the base  
26 has a plurality of feet.

**BEST AVAILABLE COPY**